ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES

OF THE

NINTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

Columbia Baptist Association,

HELD WITH

The First Baptist Church, Dothan, Henry County Ala.,

October 5th. 6th and 7th, 1893.

OFFICERS.

M. CODY, SR ..... MODERATOR.
W. M. BURR ..... CLERK.
B. A FORRESTER ..... TREASURER.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

F. M. WALKER. LEVI KIRKLAND. DAN WILLIAMS.
H. H. ETHERIDGE. B. F. DAVIS.

The next session will be held with the Bulkum Church commencing on Wednesday before the second Sunday in October 1894, at 10:30, a. m.

DOTHAN, ALA.:
SENTINEL BOOK AND JOB PRINT
1893

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Call for and read letters from the churches.
2. Organization and election of officers.
3. Call for petitionary letters.
4. Invite visiting brethren to seats.
5. Receive messages from corresponding Associations.
6. Announce committees on Preaching, Finance, Nominations, Deceased Ministers and Deacons. Time and place of Next Meeting, to report at this session.
7. Arrange hours of meeting and adjourning.
8. Appoint messengers to corresponding Associations.
9. Appoint delegates to State Baptist Convention and Southern Baptist Convention.
10. Report of Executive Committee
11. Report on Missions—State, Home and Foreign.
12. Report of Treasurer.
13. Report on Temperance.
14. Report on Aged and Indigent Ministers.
15. Report on Sunday schools.
16. Report on Education.
17. Report on Denominatianal Literature.
18. Report on State of the Churches.
19. Report on Nominations—for Executive Committee, Treasurer, and preacher to preach introductory sermon at the next Association.
20. Report of committees on Time and Place of next session
21. Repert on Finance.
22. Announce Standing Committees to report at next session.
23. Read minutes and adjourn.

MINUTES.

First Baptist Church,
Dothan, Ala., Oct. 5, 1893.

The Columbia Baptist Association met, according to adjournment, in its ninth annual session, with the First Baptist Church, Dothan, Ala., Oct. 5, 1893, at 10 o'clock A. M.

After one-half hour of devotional exercises, conducted by Rev. J. C. Skipper, the Introductory Sermon was preached by Rev. W. P. Stewart from 1 Cor. 3: 21-23.

After the sermon the house was called to order by the Moderator of the last Association, M. Cody Sr., and on motion adjourned to meet at 2 o'clock, P. M.

Afternoon Session.

The Association was called to order at 2 o'clock. Prayer by S. A. Savell. In the absence of the Clerk of the last Association, W. M. Burr was made Clerk pro tempore. The letters were called for and read by F. H. Murphree and W. M. Burr and the following list of Messengers was enrolled:

List of Messengers.

Ashford—R. D. Dixon, H. H. Ethridge.
Balkum—W. J. Smith, John A. Gamble.
Bluff Springs—J. A. Gaylord, L. T. Meadows, A. F. Sinquefield.
Camp Springs—J. H. Lane, J. E. McCorkle
Columbia—W. C. Cleveland, W. P. Stewart, F. M. Walker.
Cowarts—N. S. Fellows, R. B. Stapleton, John S. Forrester.
First Church, Dothan—J. R. G. Howell, F. H. Murphree, Dan Williams
Ebenezer—W. C. King.
Gordon—No letter or Messenger.
Halesburg—R. W. Stanley, S. T. Hall, S. A. Savell.
Hickory Grove—No letter or Messengers.
Liberty—T. T. Etheridge
Memphis—W. W. Newberry, J. W. Garner, Thomas Fowler.
Midway—J. M. Motes, Ben Shelly, William Bogan.
Mt. Ararat—Zechariah Deese, B. H. Whitten, W. H. Temple.
Mt. Calvary—L. A. White, F. J. King.
Mt. Gilliard—I. H. Kirkland, B. F. Brooken.
Mt. Enon—W. M. Hugh, M. W. Mercer, James Quattlebaum.
Mt. Pleasant—W. W. Pettis, L. P. McArthur, P. H. Phillips, Wm. Vickers.
Mt. Sinai—S. Arnold.
New Providence—W. J. Smith, S. Franklin.
Pilgrims Rest—W. P. Jordan, W. H. Miller.
Pleasant Plains—W. F. Davis, B. F. Webb.
Pleasant Hill—J. G. Culbreth, J. E. Whitehead.
Rehoboth—S. Williford, Joseph Kelly.
Selma—J. T. Tidwell.
Shiloh—W. M. Love, Moses Deese.
Union Hill—D. P. Outlaw, J. C. Glass.

1. The organization of the Association was effected by the election of M. Cody Sr., Moderator, and W. M. Burr, Clerk.
2. Under call for petitionary letters a letter from the church at Ashford was presented, and on motion the church was received into the Association, the Messengers given the right hand of fellowship by the Moderator and seated.
3. Correspondents were announced as present from the following Associations, viz:

   Rev. D. C. Culbreth from the Geneva, J. H. Stevens from the West Florida, Rev. D. E. Burdeshaw, Rev. A. Doughety and T. H. Trotter from the Judson. These bretheren were received.

   Rev. H. T. Johnson, resident pastor, Rev. W. S. Wade, Presiding Elder, and Rev. J. Z. S. Connelly, local preacher, of the Methodist Church, being present were invited to seats on the floor.
4. The following committees were appointed to report at this session. viz: On preaching: The pastor and deacons of the Dothan church; on Finance: L. T. Meadows, H. H. Ethridge and W. J. Smith; on Nominations: B. A. Forrester, B. F. Brookin and R. D. Dixon; on Time and Place of next metting: W. F. Davis, B. F. Webb and R. M. Stanley.
5. The hours of meeting were, on motion of W. M. Burr, fixed at 9 A. M, and 1:30 P. M., and for adjournment at 12 M, and in the afternoon at pleasure.
6. The following bretheren volunteered as Messengers to corresponding Associations and to the State Convention, and were so recognized: Judson: J. B. Pearce; Geneva: S. Williford, S Arnold; Bethal, Ga: W. C. Cleveland, D. D, W. P. Stewart, S. A Savell, F. M. Walker and M. Cody Sr.; State Convention: W. C. Cleveland, W. M. Burr, J. J. White, B. A. Forrester and M. Cody Sr.
7. Brother F M. Walker, chairman, read the

   REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

   Your committee beg to submit the following report: The Association at it's last meeting did not deem it neccessary to entrust any issues, or matters of business into our hands; there being none presented before the body that needed such reference.

   The matter of establishing a Baptist High School within the limits of the Association, was discussed at the last session, and a committee appointed to look into the practicability of such an undertaking. We heartily endorse the project, and look with confidence for a favorable report from the committee.

   Respectfully,

F. M. Walker, chairman.

The report was adopted.

8. Brother W. P. Stewart, chairman, read the

Report on Foreign Missions.

We your committe beg leave to make the following report: Dear Bretheren; there has never been a time in the world's history when there was such a demand on the church as to-day. In all our foreign fields there is great need for more men and women and there are some waiting to go but our Board is in debt and cannot say go, without the money. Now what are we going to do about this? "Whosoever hath this world's goods and seeth his brother have need and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him how dwelleth the love of God in him?" The work of those sacrificing christians, our missionaries, has been blessed with the ingathering of many souls; yet there are many thousand more who want the gospel that cannot be supplied. Death has made its inroads there, and failing health has driven some from the field, now shall we whom God has so blessed stop our ears to those cries and close our pocket books against such demands as these? We have all been praying for saving grace but let us now pray for giving grace so we may send the gospel to those benighted ones in such sore need of it.

Respectfully submitted,

W. P. Stewart,
S. A Stephens,
W. S. Weeks.
} Committee.

The report was entertainingly discussed by bretheren Stewart, Pearce, Burr, Fellows, B. A. Forrester and Cleveland. Bro. Cleveland called for a contribution to Foreign Missions and received $13 31. Report adopted.

On motion W. C. Cleveland and W. P. Stewart were appointed to fill vacancies in the committees on State and Home Missions respectively.

Pending the discussion on Foreign Missions the Association adjourned to 9 o'clock to-morrow

Committee on preaching announced Dr. Cleveland to preach to-night.

Friday Morning Oct. 6th.

9. Called to order at 9 o'clock. Prayer by H. L. Lisenby. Minutes read and adopted. A motion was adopted explaining the invitation extended to the bretheren of the Methodist Church named in "Item 3," as the usual invitation of courtesy on such occasions. On motion of Bro. Newberry a like invitation was extended to all members of other denominations.

10. A petitionary letter from Mt. Calvary Baptist Church was presented asking to be reinstated, the church having been dropped from the list because of disorganization. The petition was granted and the messengers seated.

11. Bro. W P. Stewart read the

REPORT ON HOME MISSIONS.

We your committee beg leave to make the following report on Home Missions: The work of this Board covers the whole of the South and the Island of Cuba. We can see the need of this work in our own land and Cuba is so close we cannot help but feel an interest there. The Board had 468 Missionaries in its employ last year who report 5111 baptisms for which let us all rejoice. We believe our Home Field to be an excellent agency for keeping this matter before the people, and urge the pastors to bring this excellent paper to the attention of the people. It is published in Atlanta at the small cost of 25 ¢ per year.

Respectfully submitted,

W. P. STEWART.

Discussed by bretheren Stewart, Pearce, Stapleton, Newberry, Culbreth and Cleveland. Report adopted.

12. Bro. W. C. Cleveland read the

REPORT ON STATE MISSIONS.

The State Board of Missions, located at Montgomery, Ala., is composed of many of our best and wisest bretheren from different parts of the State. They are chosen annually by the Alabama Baptist State Convention. It is the duty of this Board to receive monies, appoint and settle with missionaries laboring under their direction. The Board will be glad to receive aid from all the churches, and will consider all applications for assistance in destitute sections whether in town or country. There are now more than forty missionaries laboring in Alabama and still the cry is heard "The harvest is great but the laborers are few." The watchword of the great hosts of Baptists in our State should be "Alabama for Christ." This can be accomplished only when all our churches adopt the Divine injunction, "Let every one of you lay aside in store according as the Lord has prospered you." Your committee believe that

THE LACK OF SYSTEM

is the principal hindrance to financial success, as is shown by the fact that the most liberal churches are the most peresevering in pursuing a regular system of collections. Your committee would recommend that

country churches take monthly collections, and city and town churches, meeting every Lord's day, take weekly collections; this is being done successfully in some communities. Something from every one should be expected and it can be secured from every real convert, if they are instructed and developed in the grace of giving. The use of the canvassing book and collection envelope are indispensable to this end, and we are glad to report many applications for them. We heartily recommend to the church the State Mission Quarterly, published by Rev. W. B. Crumpton, at 15 ¢ per year. Let every church send in a club of subscribers and see what is being done in our State. Address Rev. W. B. Crumpton, Marion, Ala. We further recommend the appointment of Rev. W. P. Stewart to solicit subscriptions to the State Mission Quarterly, the Home Field and the Foreign Mission Journal.

W. C. CLEVELAND, Chairman.

Bro. Cleveland asked the messengers to promise to try to raise for missions during the coming year as much as 25 ¢ per member, and the messengers of the following churches responded: Ashford, Bluff Springs, Camp Springs, Columbia, Cowarts, Dothan, Ebenezer, Halesburg, Liberty, Memphis, Midway, Mt Ararat, Mt. Calvary, Mt. Gilliad, Mt. Pleasant, New Providence, Pleasant Plaines, Pilgrims Rest, Pleasant Hill, Rehoboth, Selma, Shiloh, and Union Hill. The Report was adopted.

13. On motion of W. M. Burr the motion fixing the hour of meeting was reconsidered, and 2 o'clock P. M. was substituted for 1:30 P. M. Adjourned.

Afternoon Session.

14. Prayer by bretheren Pearce and Stewart.
15. Bro. M. V. Capps was announced as a corresponding messenger from the Judson Association. Received.
16. Bro. T. A. Jones read the

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

To the Columbia Association, Greeting:

We your committee on temperance beg to submit the following as our report: We realize that intemperance is a gigantic evil which is constantly imposing obstacles, almost insurmountable, in the progress of the church; holding out temptations to and influencing our boys and young men to pursue a ruinous course of conduct, that not only destroys them for any useful sphere in life, but brings a gloom of unhappiness and broken hearts to our homes and firesides. We see saloons and rum shops, made attractive and tempting, on every corner of the street, to allure our youths and young men from paths of duty and morality. We further realize that the Baptists of this Association, neither collectively nor individually, are doing as much as your committee think should be done. In our humble opinion, Baptists especially; should be more aggres-

sive in their fight upon this terrible monster. Men who are in sympathy with us or better still, men with nerve and backbone from among our ranks, should be selected, for, and elected to represent us in the Legislature, with instructions to use every available means to enact laws as will drive out, and abolish in every form the whiskey traffic, and thereby throw a wall of safety and protection around our homes and boys. Your committee believes that in the church, we have an organization far superior, to any temperance society, in the glorious work of educating our boys and girls in opposing this evil; still we have no fight to make on any temperance organization but bid them God speed. Your committee realizes a very grave and great responsibility resting upon every Baptist and we would recommend that every church in the Association do everything possible to arouse every member to a full sense of this duty, upon him or her, and the necessity of acting accordingly. Your committee is at a loss to know just what mode to recommend, but much good might be derived from general discussion of this subject by and among the laity as well as from the pulpit.

We are commanded to touch not handle not the unclean thing, and not to put the bottle to our neighbors' lips

Respectfully submitted,

Milus Kirkland,
T. A. Jones,
H. J. Ward,
} Committee.

Bretheren Jones, Culbreth, Stapleton, Cleveland and B. A. Forrester spoke to the report, and it was then adopted.

17. Bro. F. M. Walker read the

Report on Aged and Infirm Ministers.

We your committee on aged and infirm ministers feel happy that we can report that as far as we have gathered information there are no ministers within the bounds of this Association that are not able to live within their own means, for which we give all praise and heartfelt thanks to the great giver of all good gifts to all those who put their trust in him. Respectfully submitted.

F M. Walker, chairman.

Report was adopted.

18. The Clerk read for the committee the

Report on Sunday Schools.

There is no department of Christian labor of greater importance to our denomination than the efficient work done in the Sunday School We are pained to note that very few of the churches of our Association report a Sunday School. Our motto should be "A Sunday School in every Church; the best possible Sunday School." We should remember that every thing done for the Sunday School is something done for every christian enterprise. Through the Sunday School we can best reach the young and help to train them up, and to so shape their thoughts and feelings that the good thus accomplished will not only benefit the present generation, but generations of all future years. Our preachers, our missionaries, our contributions to all christian causes are to come from the Sunday Schools. Your committee would urge every church in the Association to organize and keep up a live Sunday School. We would also earnestly recommend the use in all our Sunday Schools of the literature published by S. S. Board of the S. B. Convention and

known as our "Convention Series," Rev. T. P. Bell Secy. Nashville Tenn. These periodicals may be ordered from J. B. Collier, Opelika, Ala, Respectfully submitted

B. G. Farmer, chairman.

Report was adopted.

19. The Clerk read the

Report on Education.

The desire for education and the spirit of education and the necessity for education are increasing and becoming more intense in every part of the State. No argument or exhortation is needed to make plain its importance. Provision should be made for the education of our children, and of the young men who are preparing to spend their lives in preaching the gospel; therefore your committee suggests that vigorous efforts be made for the establishment of a Baptist High School in the bounds of the Columbia Association, and if that be not practicable, to unite in the attempt with neighboring Associations, and we further suggest that the pastors and churches make liberal contributions to the support of young men who are preparing for the work of the ministry. We commend to the patronage of any who will send their children away from home the Judson Institute at Marion Ala., for girls, and Howard College at East Lake Ala., for boys. We must rely upon our pastors, appointed of God, and called by the churches, for vigorous prosecution of efforts in this, as in every direction of christian effort. Respectfully submitted.

B. G. Farmer, chairman, for committee.

20. The report was, by motion, laid on the table and made the special order for 10 o'clock Saturday.

21. The chairman of the committee presented the

Report on Aged and Deceased Ministers and Deacons,

We your committee on deceased ministers and deacons beg leave to make the following report: We find that our Heavenly Father has seen fit to call our much beloved Bro. Larkin Culbreth from labor to rest, to be with Christ. Brethren pray for and visit his aged invalid widow who has been sick for a long time. The good Lord has spared all of the deacons. Respectfully submitted.

H. L Lisenby,
J. H. Lane. } Committee.
J. M. Motes.

The Association was addressed by B. A. Forrester, who moved to appoint a committee to write an obituary on Rev. L. Culbreth Committee consists of Jno. T. Davis, B. A. Forrester and W. F. Davis. Report adopted.

22. A motion was made by Bro. W. F. Davis, and adopted, to devote one half hour, from 8:30 to 9 o'clock to morrow morning, to a memorial service in memory of Rev. L Culbreth.

23. Bro. L. T. Meadows read the

Report on The State of The Churches.

We your committee on State of the Churches beg leave to make the following report: We find from the reading of the letters that the churches are all in peace and harmony one with the other and in a prosperous condition. Bretheren pray that "The Great Head" of the church may pour out His Holy Spirit upon us all. Respectfully submitted.

L. T. Meadows,
J. F. Tidwell, } Committee.

Report was adopted.

24. Bro. B. A. Forrester, treasurer, read the

TREASURER'S REPORT.

B. A. Forrester, Treasurer In account with
The Columbia Baptist Association:

To Balance from 1891	$185.50	
To amount received from Finance Committee	203.80	
		$389.30
By amt paid J. L. Williams (clerk fee)	$ 25.00	
By amt paid for printing minutes	27.00	
By amt paid Williams ex ense dis. minutes	1.50	
By amt paid W. B. Crumpton Centeniel fund	66.10	
By amt paid " " Foreign Mission	40.77	
Balance on hand	228.93	
		$389.30

B. A. FORRESTER, Treasurer.

Report was on motion adopted.

25. Committee on preaching announced preaching by Rev. S. A. Savell to-night at 7:30.

26. Adjourned.

Saturday Morning, Oct. 7.

From 8:30 to 9 o'clock was devoted to the Culbreth memorial services, led by Dr. Cleveland.

27. Association called to order at 9 o'clock. Prayer by J. J. White.

28. W. C. Cleveland moved that the standing committe on deceased ministers and deacons be stricken from the list of standing committees. Adopted.

29. A motion was adopted to add to the list of standing committees, a committee on ministerial education.

30. B. A. Forrester, chairman, read the

REPORT ON NOMINATIONS.

We your committee on nominations ask leave to make the following report: F. M. Walker, Dan Williams, Levi Kirkland, H. H. Ethridge and B. F. Davis to serve as executive committee; and that the treasurer of the Association also be considered a member of the committee. Bro. Cleveland to preach the introductory sermon next session, Bro. W. M. Burr alternate.

Respectfully submitted.
B. A. Forrester, }
B. F. Brookins, } Committee.

The report was adopted.

31. W. M. Burr read the

REPORT ON DENOMINATIONAL LITERATURE.

Your committee beg to report that it is our conviction that one of the essential needs of our people to-day, is to be better informed as to all the departments of our denominational work. We would recommend to our people such denominational literature as can be obtained through the Bible and Colportage Board at Opelika, J. B. Collier, Sec'y. We also urge upon every Baptist to subscribe for and read the Alabama Baptist our State Organ published at $1.50 per year by J. G. Harris, Montgomery, Ala., The State Mission Quarterly published at 15 cts per year by Rev. W. B. Crumpton, Marion, Ala., The Foreign Mission Journal, Richmond Va., and

Our Home Field, Atlanta Ga.

W. M. Burr, chairman.

The report was adopted.

32. W. F. Davis made the

REPORT ON TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING.

Your committee recommend that the next session of this body be held with the Baptist Church at Balkum, at 10:30 A. M., Wednesday before the 2nd Sunday in Oct. 1894. Respectfully submitted,

B. F. Webb chairman.

Amended and adopted.

33. Ten o'clock having arrived the special order, the report on education, was taken up.

By consent, W. M. Burr, chairman, read the report of the special committee from the last Association on Male and Female High School, and the report was discussed in connection with the report on education.

Your committee appointed at the last Association to consider and report to this body upon the advisability of establishing a High School in the bounds of the Association submit the following:

The committee held one meeting since the last Association, but no definite conclusion was arrived at. After a free discussion of the matter the committee adjourned to meet in connection with the Association. Only a minority of the committee is present. We refer the matter back to the Association, with the recommendation that the Association invite the co-operation of adjoining Associations, and appoint a committee to bring the matter before these Associations, and ask them to appoint committees to meet the committee from this Association, the several committees to be organized into one joint committee by the election of a chairman and a clerk, and the report agreed upon by said joint committee to be made by the chairmen of the several committees to their respective Associations.

The following was added to the report by amendment, offered by Dr. Cleveland: That it be made the duty of the joint committee to formulate plans, invite contributions of money and property for the establishment and location of the school contemplated in this report, and that this information be made a part of their report. In the event the invited Associations do not think proper to co-operate in this enterprise, then the committee appointed by this Association shall perform the duties specified in this amendment, and report the same to the next Association.

W. M. BURR, chairman.

Brethren Cleveland, White, Savell, Stapleton, B. A. Forrester and Stewart spoke to the report.

Bro Cleveland asked for pledges to Ministerial Education and the following were given:

Columbia, by F. M. Walker,	$25.00.
Cowarts, by B. A. Forrester,	5.00
Cowarts Sunbeams	5.00.
Bluff Springs, by L. T. Meadows,	1.00.
Camp Springs, J H. Lane,	1.00.
Dothan, by M. Cody,	10.00.
W. C. King,	1.00.
T. T. Ethridge,	1.00.
J. M. Moates,	1.00.
B. H. Whiddon and Z. Deese,	1.00.

L. B. McArthur and W. J. Vickers,..... 5.00.
Pilgrims Rest, by W. P. Stewart,..... 2 50
Shiloh, ... 2.50.
Mrs. Josiphine Williford, ... 1.00.

34. Twelve o'clock having arrived a motion was adopted to extend the time until the business of the Association was finished

35. Reports on Education, and Male and Female High School were adopted,

26. L T. Meadows read the

REPORT ON FINANCE.

We your committee on Finance beg to make the following report:

Amount received from church pledges			$ 1.00
"	"	for minutes	30.95
"	"	" Associational purposes	25.50
"	"	" Foreign Missions	20 69
"	"	" Home Missions	12.75
"	"	" State Missions	14.06
"	"	" Education Bro. Watson	3.00
"	"	in collections for Foreign Missions	13.30
Total			121.25
Vouchers			52.31
Grand total			173.56

We find that Columbia Church distributes $361.65 for various purposes of which we have no vouchers.

Respectfully submitted,

L. T. Meadows,
H. H. Ethridge,
W. J. Smith. } Committee.

The report was adopted.

37. The Chair through the Clerk announced the following standing committees to report at the next Association:

On Home Missions—W. C. Cleveland, J. R. G Howell, W. H. Temple.
On State Missions—R. B. Stapleton R. D Dixon L. B. McArthur.
On Foreign Missions—S. A. Sa ell. F. H. Murphree, W. F. Davis.
On Temperance—B. A. Forrester, J. C. Kelly, J G. Culbreth.
On State of Churches—L. T. Meadows, J. H. Lane, W. J. Smith.
On Aged and Infirm Ministers R. W. Stanley, J. M. Moates, M. W. Mercer.
On Education—W. M Burr, Archie Kirkland, W. J. Smith.
On Denominational Literature—W. P. Stewart, P. H. Phillips, B. F. Webb.
On Sunday School G. L. Campbell, N. S. Fellows, J. H. Kirkland.
On Ministerial Education—W. C. Cleveland, G. L. Campbell, B. A Forrester.
On Committee on High School—W. M. Burr, B. A. Forrester, W. C. Cleveland, Jno. T. Davis, J. R. G. Howell.

38. By motion the Moderator was allowed time to make up the committee provided for in the report on Male and Female High School, and hand same to the Clerk.

39. By motion of W. F. Davis the Clerk was allowed

$25.00 for his services, and was instructed to have 500 copies of the minutes printed for distribution among the churches.

40. Bro N S Fellows offered the following resolution:

Resolved that the thanks of this body are due, and are hereby tendered, to the members of this church and to the people of the surrounding community for the hospitable manner in which they have received and entertained this Association; also to the Moderator and Clerk for their faithful services during this session.

N. S. Fellows.

41. The following resolution, offered by W. M. Burr, was unanimously passed:

Resolved that Rev. W. C. Cleveland be appointed as the delegate of this Association to the Southern Baptist Convention, to meet in Dallas, Texas, Friday, May 11, 1894.

42. B. A. Forrester was on motion elected Dr. Cleveland's alternate to Southern Baptist Convention.

43. By motion of W. C. Cleveland brethren J. J. White, W. P. Stewart and R. B. Stapleton were appointed a committee to arrange programmes for 5th Sunday meetings.

44. Minutes read and adopted.

45. A motion to adjourn was adopted. The Association joined in singing "How Firm a Foundation, ye Saints of the Lord," gave the parting hand, and was led in prayer by W. C. Cleveland, after which the Moderator announced the Association adjourned sine die.

W. M. Burr, Clerk.

M. Cody, Sr., Moderator.

MEMORIAL.

REV. LARKIN CULBRETH.

Your committee appointed to prepare an appropriate memorial commemorating the life and character of our deceased Brother, Rev. Larkin Culbreth, do hereby submit the following:

Bro. Culbreth was born in Marion County Georgia, March 30th, 1828, and departed this life March 13th, 1893. He was twice married, first to Miss Elizabeth Adams, and after her death to Mrs. Hilman, who survives him. He moved to this State about three years ago, locating in the town of Columbia.

From the testimonials which our deceased brother brought with him, we felt the pleasant assurance, that we were gaining a worthy citizen and exemplary member of the Baptist Church, with which he united at Columbia soon after coming into our midst.

Bro. Culbreth was in every sense of the word a true and upright man; and when we add to those praisworthy characteristics, the spiritual traits with which God's regenerating grace always clothes His creatures, we have all the essential qualities of an "humble disciple of the Lord Jesus Christ," and the qualifications of one of "natures' noblemen" blended together in the life of our deceased brother. As a minister of the gospel, he took the Bible as the man of his counsel, and in all of his reasoning upon doctrinal subjects, or church polity, he never departed from its teaching. He was in no sense a sensational preacher, or revivalist—so called. But expounded the scriptures as he understood them in plain and unvarnished language; earnestly endeavoring to impress the great truths he was handling upon the hearts and minds of his hearers. He was quiet and unassuming in his daily walk and deportment. He commended the right and condemned the wrong, both in temporal as well as spiritual matters. He was a devoted husband and indulgent father; and always faithful to his promises, even in the smallest matter. So to speak, his word was his bond. It was most gratifying to relatives, brethren and friends, that during his last illness he was perfectly resigned to God's will, and gave unmistakable assurances to those who nursed and stood watch around his bedside while administering to his wants, that he was fully prepared for the change which he realized was near at hand.

In the death of Bro. Culbreth, the Association has lost a zealous worker in our Master's cause, and the community at large a worthy and honored citizen. We commend our sister, his widowed wife, to the merciful kindness of our heavenly Father, and extend to her and the children our warmest sympathy in their sad affliction.

Jno. T. Davis,
B. A. Forrester,
W. F. Davis,
} Committee.

TABULAR EXHIBIT.

Churches.	Pastors.	Post Office.	Clerks.	Post Office.	Missions	Ministerial Education	Printing M'ts	R'd by B'p'sm	R'd by Letter	Restored	D's'm'd by L'r	Excluded	Died	T'l M'mb'rsh'p	Sabbath of Meeting	Assessments.
Ashford	L. M. Bradley	Brundidge	J. B. Farrior	Ashford	19.19		1.00	9	21					41		
Balkum	S. A. Savell	Halesburg	S. C. T. Sasson	Balkum			1.50	4	4		4	2		55	1st	2.00
Bluff Springs	J. J. White	Cowarts	R. M. Jackson	Ashford	17.52		1.50	1	4	1	19	7	2	125	2nd	1.00
Camp Springs	S. A. Savell	Halesburg	J. F. Hasty	Columbia			1.50	3	11	3	3	2		51	4th	2.00
Columbia	W. C. Cleveland	Columbia	G. L. Campbell	Columbia	281.00	23.00	1 50	4	15	1	16	1	4	146	1st & 3rd	
Cowarts	J. J. White	Cowarts	N. S. Fellows	Cowarts	29.85	3.00	1 50	3	4		1	2		91	1st	
Dothan	W. M. Burr	Dothan	F.H.Murphree	Dothan	104.30		2 00	6	21	1	5	1	3	120	Every S.	
Ebenezer	W. P. Stewart	Columbia	W. L. Johnson	Columbia	1.50		1.00	1		3	10			56	1st	
Gordon								5						66		
Halesburg	S. A. Savell	Halesburg	S. T. Hall	Halesburg			1.00							45	3rd	1.00
Hickory Grove								5						66		
Liberty	D.E.Burdeshaw	Kinsey	T .T. Ethridge	Pansey			1 00	1	6	3	7	8		52		
Memphis	J. C. Skipper	Dothan	J. C. Stewart	Cowarts			1.00	8	8		4		2	88	3rd	2.00
Midway	A. Doughety	Dothan	J. M. Moates	Dothan			.60	11	3		2			34		
Mt Ararat	Moses Brackin	Brackin	J. W. Kirkland	McRae			1.50	8	15	1	14	1	1	100	4th	3.00
Mt Calvary	J. W. Whidden	Columbia	J. S. Hunter	Columbia			.50							8		.50
Mt Gilead			J. H. Kirkland	Not Given	2.00		.50	5		3		4	2	21		
Mt Enon	J. W. Johnson	Graceville Fla	D. S.M'Alister	Sanders			1.00	2	3		5	1		50	4th	
Mt Pleasant	Aris Armstrong	Headland	J. M. Mann	Midland City	18.50		2.00	23	3	1	6	7		181	4th	2.50
Mt Sinai	B. J. Fordham		Joseph Peeler				.50	1		2				19		1.00
New Providence	J. W. Johnson	Graceville, Fla.,	S. Franklin	Sanders				1			1	3		53		
Pilgrims Rest	W. P. Stewart	Columbia	F. A. Grimsley	Crosby			1.25		3		1	1	1	38	2nd	4.75
Pleasant Plains	S A. Savell	Halesburg	L. A. Kirkland	Ple's'nt Plains	6 50		1.50	11	16	3	4		2	86	2nd	3.00
Pleasant Hill	J. W. Whidden	Pansey	J. B. Burkett	Pansy			1.00				5	2		20	2nd	
Rehoboth	B. J. Fordham		J. G. Sanders	Sanders			1.10	8	8	1	4	4	3	98	4th	1.50
Shiloh	W. P. Stewart	Columbia	W. M. Love	Columbia	4.25		.85	14	1		3			42	3rd	
Selma	Aris Armstrong	Headland	T. M. Whidden	Dothan			1.25	4	2					64		.25
Union Hill	J. C. Skipper	Dothan	M. P. Gilmore	Cottonwood			2 00	3	4	1				55	2nd	1.50

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CONSTITUTION OF COLUMBIA ASSOCIATION.

ARTICLE 1. This union of churches shall be known and distinguished by the style and name of "THE COLUMBIA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION."

ART. 2. The object of the Association shall be to combine our Christian efforts for the purpose of carrying the appointed means of grace to dying men and women, and to regard all churches united under this constitution with a vigilant eye for good. Her principal object shall be to promote the declarative glory of God by extending His kingdom of grace on earth through the medium of preaching the gospel, and all other means within reach of a working Christian organization.

ART. 3. This Association shall be composed of representatives from the churches as follows: Each church having one hundred members or less shall be entitled to two messengers, and to one additional messenger for every fifty members or fractional part thereof, in excess of one hundred. But in the business of the Association, whenever the messengers from any church desire it, the vote shall be taken by churches, in which case each church shall be entitled to two votes.

ART. 4. The messengers when convened shall organize themselves into a deliberative body, by the appointment of Moderator and clerk, and these officers shall be chosen by ballot, or otherwise as the body may decide at each annual meeting, and continue in office until their successors are chosen. Should any event transpire, so as to prevent any annual meeting of this Association, the Moderator shall have the power to call a meeting at any time and place, which meeting, when convened, shall have all the rights of a regular annual meeting.

ART. 5. This association shall not interfere with the rights of the churches of which she is composed. She shall regard them as independent bodies in all measures of internal government, and shall act in an advisory council assuming no authority but what is expressly delegated to her by the churches, or evidently implied by the very nature of the compact. But she nevertheless claims authority over her own members, the messengers of the churches and in justice and propriety must have power to withdraw from and disown all churches that depart from the principles of the compact by holding opinions repugnant to the doctrines of scriptures, or disorderly in practice

ART. 6. Newly constituted churches or churches dismissed from associations of the same faith and order may be admitted into this union on their sending up messengers to an annual meeting with a petition, and those messengers agreeing to the abstract principles adopted by the association

ART. 7. The churches in this union shall transmit to every annual session of the association written communications specifying the names of messengers, members in fellowship, baptised, received by letter, dismissed excluded, restored since last session, and such other information which the churches, may deem important, which shall be read and minuted accordingly.

ART. 8. This association shall have a fund, supplied by voluntary contribution of the churches; and all moneys thus contributed or otherwise received shall be transmitted through the finance committee to the treasurer who shall be elected by ballot or otherwise, as the body may decide, and hold his office during the pleasure of the association.

ART. 9. It shall be the duty of the clerk to keep a regular file of printed minutes of every session of this body and deliver over the same to his successors in office

ART. 10. This association when convened shall be governed by proper rules setting forth the duties of officers and such other matters necessary for a deliberate body and may alter or amend such rules from time to time by a majority vote of the body in annual session.

ART. 11. The executive committee shall attend to such duties as may be imposed upon it by the association and when the association is not in session this committee shall have power to fill all vacancies that may occur.

ART. 12. This Constitution may be altered or amended at a regular meeting of the association by a vote of two-thirds of the members present provided such alteration or amendment is not disapproved of by a majority of the churches in their written communications to the next annual session of the body.

ART. 13. We believe that a proper administrator of the ordinance of baptism should be called of God set apart by a presbytery and in full fellowship with the church of which he is a member.

DECORUM.

1st. It shall be the duty of the Moderator to preside over the deliberations of the association in session, preserve order, submit motions or other matter and announce results when passed on by the body. He may have the same right of speech as any other member provided the chair be occupied but is not allowed a vote, except the body be equally divided in which case he shall give the casting vote.

2nd. It shall be the duty of the clerk to keep a correct record of the minutes of the proceedings in a clear and concise manner. And immediatly after the adjournment of each annual session to prepare a copy of the same for distribution to the churches for the payment of which he shall draw his draft upon the treasurer of the association.

3rd. The treasurer shall keep a correct account of all monies coming into his hands, as well as the manner in which it is disbursed. He shall only pay out money upon the order of the association in session, or the Executive Committee in vacation. He shall render an annual statement to the association of all funds received and disbursed by him showing the balance, if any, remaining on hand.

4th. This association shall not consider any query or other matter affecting the churches, unless they have first endeavored to solve the same and failed; nor any difficulty between churches unless they have pursued the directions contained in the 18th chapter of Mathew, and have not been able to bring about a settlement and reconciliation, in which case the association shall take such matters under consideration, and act upon them or not, at her discretion.

5th. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the observation and be acted upon by the body except it be withdrawn by the member who made it.

6th. Every person who speaks in debate shall rise from his seat and address the Moderator and shall not be interrupted while speaking, unless he depart from the subject in debate.

7th. No member shall speak more than twice upon the same subject without leave of the body. And it shall be a violation of these rules for any member to abruptly break off or absent himself without leave of the body; and if he does so he shall be liable to reproof by the Moderator.

8th. The clerk, treasurer and all members of the standing committees shall be entitled to the same privilege of speaking and voting as other members, except in cases where the interests of any individual church is to be affected by the matter at issue. In this latter case they may express their views but shall not be allowed a vote.

9th. These rules may be altered or amended by a majority of the members in session.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

Article 1. We believe in the existence of one only true and living God, and that he has made himself known to his people under the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, the same in essence and equal in divine perfection.

Art. 3. We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the Word of God, and the only rule of faith and practice.

Art. 3. We believe in the doctrine of election and that God chose his people in Christ before the foundation of the world; that they should be holy and without blame before him in love, having predestined them to the adoption of children by Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will.

Art. 4. We believe in the doctrine of original sin.

Art. 5. We believe in man's incompetency to recover himself from the fallen state he is in by nature by his own will and ability.

Art. 6. We believe sinners are justified in the sight of God only by the imputed righteousness of Christ.

Art. 7. We believe that God's elect shall be called, regenerated, and sanctified by the Holy Ghost.

Art. 8 We believe that nothing can seperate the true believers from the love of God, but that they will be kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

Art 9. We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of Jesus Christ; that the true believers are only subjects of these ordinances, and that im nerso only is baptism.

Art. 10 We believe in the resurrection of the dead, and a general judgement.

Art 11. We believe that the punishment of the wicked will be everlasting, and the joys of the righteous will be eternal.

Art 12. We believe that no minister has a right to administer the ordinances unless he is called of God, and comes under the imposition of the hands of a Presbytery, and is in fellowship in the church of which he is a member.